

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-7 (Canceled).

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A waterproof and breathable sole for shoes,  
comprising:

a mid-sole component including:

a membrane made of a material that is impermeable to water and permeable to  
water vapor;

a lower protective layer made of a material that is resistant to hydrolysis,  
water-repellent, breathable, and/or perforated, the membrane being connected in spots  
with said lower protective layer; and

a tread made of perforated elastomer, the tread including a border that is joined  
perimetrically and hermetically to the mid-sole component to seal edges of the mid-sole  
component,

wherein said membrane is associated with said protective layer by a thermoreactive  
adhesive, and wherein the tread and border are formed as a single piece ~~formed in a single  
molding step~~.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The sole of claim 8, wherein said membrane and  
said protective layer associated therewith are joined hermetically to said tread, which is  
provided by overmolding or in place assembling on said component.

Claims 10-11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A method for joining a membrane made of a material that is impermeable to water and permeable to water vapor to a protective layer made of a material that is resistant to hydrolysis, water-repellent, breathable and/or perforated, to provide waterproof and breathable soles for shoes, the method comprising:

applying thermoreactive adhesives in spots between said membrane and said protective layer;

forming a tread and a border ~~in a single molding~~ as a single piece; and

perimetrically enclosing and sealing edges of the membrane and protective layer with the border.

Claim 13 (Canceled).

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A method for making a waterproof and breathable sole for shoes that has a structure including a mid-sole component with a membrane made of a material that is impermeable to water and permeable to water vapor and is connected in spots with a lower protective layer made of a material that is resistant to hydrolysis, water-repellent, breathable and/or perforated; and a tread made of perforated elastomer that is joined perimetrically and hermetically to the component, the method comprising:

connecting said membrane to said protective layer with a thermoreactive adhesive;

forming a tread and a border ~~in a single molding~~ as a single piece; and

perimetrically enclosing and sealing edges of the membrane and protective layer with the border.